

GRAND ISLE CEMETERY COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

June 10, 2025, 4:30 p.m., Grand Isle Town Office

Meeting was called to order by Brian Allen, Vice Chair at 4:32 p.m.

Present: Brian Allen, Lucille Campbell, Sue Lawrence, Suzanne Sauvé.

Absent: Val Hunter.

Guests: None Present on Zoom: None

Additions or deletions to agenda: Suzanne Sauvé added Hoag Cemetery to New Business

Minutes:

Sue Lawrence moved to accept the minutes of May 13, 2025. Brian seconded. All in favor.

Administrative Report – Sue Lawrence

CD Issue/Renewal:

Sue reported that notice was received May 10, 2025 that M & T Bank had resolved the problem with the Trust Fund CD renewal. The funds mistakenly put in a personal CD account in February 2025 by M & T Bank with a lower interest rate were withdrawn by M & T Bank. M & T Bank then renewed the CD for another 12 months at a 3.43% interest rate. The CD is now in the correct municipal account with a current balance of \$18,993.10. It is due for renewal in May 2026.

The \$103,730.66 Land Fund CD held by M & T Bank was renewed for 12 months at a 3.43% interest rate and is due for renewal in May 2026.

Financial Report:

Contracted Labor (lawn care) and Caretaker Labor may be over budget by the end of FY 2025 because of excessive rain and wind this fiscal year.

Lawn Care & Maintenance:

Invoice from Jesse Sauvé for lawn care and clean-up of cemetery - \$5,737.50

Invoice from Wade Lawrence for cornerstone placement - \$100.

Both approved for payment and signed by Brian.

Invoice for \$200 from P. Pepin for 4 cornerstones lettered "M" has been paid.

Invoice was received from "The Islander" for 2 weeks publication in February of Lawn Care Request for Bids for \$96 plus late fee. The Commission approved the original \$96 bill for payment on March 11, 2025. Sue will ask Melissa if a check was issued in March.

Burials and Lot Sales:

Seven burials are scheduled for this summer. Four grave openings/ administrative fees have been paid for.

Gravestone Repair:

Suzanne Sauvé will contact Jeff Pignona of Champlain Monuments to set up meeting at the Village Cemetery to look at broken and leaning stones.

Cremains pins:

Sue reported that the price of pins to mark cremains sites has increased to about \$9.00 each, up from about \$3.00 each. Discussion as to whether pins are needed at that price since we don't charge for them. Consensus was to continue marking cremains sites to be consistent with past practice and to allow for placing future cremains in the correct spot. Lucille presented other options for cremains pins at a lower cost. Sue will research further.

Canadian and Australian Flags:

More of each need to be ordered. Lucille presented several options and varying prices. Most were made in China. Consensus was to table this and for Lucille to look for other options not made in China.

Flag Standards:

Brian has made a way to hang the flag standards in the storage shed to keep them off the floor. We have 6 or 8 left. Lucille presented prices from several companies. Cost has increased since last order. Brian moved to order 10 bronze flag standards from United States Flag Store at discount price of \$65.44 each. Suzanne seconded. Passed.

Culvert & Pond drainage:

Brian spoke to Carl Penske about the culvert issue. Carl suggested that replacing the existing culvert with 2 culverts side by side could be a solution. Brian said the standing water is actually two ponds with a high spot between them. He suggested drainage tiles be placed in the area. Brad Sheridan had been asked if the Town could do the culvert work but didn't reply. Brian will check with the Town road crew about the culvert and drainage issue. Sue mentioned that Jeff Parizo had asked about the drainage, the right of way on the north side of the Village Cemetery and improving the road on the north side. Jeff suggested the road crew might be able to do some of the work. Consensus of the Commissioners was that the north road did not need more than some potholes filled.

Quaker fence:

Part of one section of fencing has dirt from plowing/mowing on it. Brian has asked Silas Shepard to give a quote for cleaning it.

Directional signs:

Lucille suggested we install a directional sign in the Village Cemetery Section A where the road splits so people don't drive in both directions around the circle. Brian will ask Brad if the town has a "one way" sign. It doesn't need to be the highway reflective type.

Hoag Cemetery:

Suzanne noted that some of the stones have issues that should be repaired. She will include this when she talks to Jeff Pignona.

Suzanne moved to adjourn at 5:54 p.m. Lucille seconded. Passed.

Next meeting July 8, 2025 at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Lucille Campbell, Recording Secretary